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Foreign students

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
Office of Institutional Research

FOREIGN STUDENT ENROLMENT STATISTICS FOR THE FALL TERMS
OF THE ACADEMIC YEARS 1976/77 TO 1978/79

PART I - THE UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL

With the introduction of the additional fee for foreign students enrolled in Quebec universities, enrolment statistics relating to that particular group have been subject to more scrutiny than in the past. The DGES requested foreign student statistics for the 1977/78 and 1978/79 academic years in December 1978, and allowed seven days for a response. As a result, the data submitted was prepared hurriedly, and this report presents the results of a more thorough subsequent study of the situation at this University for the current and the two previous academic years.

The academic records of all students registered at the undergraduate level since the Fall of 1976 have been maintained in a computer file, allowing data to be obtained with relative ease for the study of foreign students at that level. Unfortunately, graduate student records were first computerized in the Fall of 1977, and graduate student enrolment statistics obtained from computer reports for the 1977/78 Fall term appeared to contain serious errors. Consequently, such statistics for that academic year must be determined manually, a process requiring considerably more time than has been the case at the undergraduate level. This resulted in our response to the DGES request of December 1978 referring to the undergraduate level only, with a statement that statistics for the graduate level would be submitted later. A computer list of foreign students registered at that level in 1977/78 has now been obtained, but some analysis is required to determine the number of new students on the list in order to complete the response to DGES. While that part of the study continues, the part relating to the undergraduate level is complete and its results are reported herein; foreign graduate student statistics will be the subject of the second part of the report which will be available at a later date.

The attached Tables present enrolment statistics for those students registered at the undergraduate level who hold any form of Visa permitting them to reside in Canada without the status of a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant. Table I indicates that the majority of foreign students who register at the undergraduate level hold Student Visas, but other types of Visa, such as Work and Diplomatic, are involved. At first sight, the facts that there are part-time and Independent students holding Student Visas require some explanation. Upon investigation it has been found that those with undergraduate status are likely to have registered full-time, that is for a minimum of 24 credits in the Fall/Winter Session, and reduced their load below the minimum during the Fall course change period either of their own volition or because they were required to register for a non-credit course in English.

An examination of the files of those full-time Independent students holding Student Visas registered at the Sir George Williams Campus indicates that they fall into the following general categories, with the majority in category (1).

- (1) Students who had been accepted into an undergraduate programme before Fall registration, at which time an error such as an incorrect student number was introduced and their records have not yet been corrected.
- (2) Students who registered as Independents anticipating subsequent acceptance into an undergraduate programme, but who were later refused admission.
- (3) Students who chose to register as Independents without submitting an application for admission to an undergraduate programme.

A similar examination of the files of Independent students holding Student Visas and registered for a full-time programme at the Loyola Campus has yet to be undertaken, as well as for all those registered for part-time programmes throughout the University. Individuals holding other types of Visa are presumably entitled to register as Independent students provided they satisfy the conditions of their Visa.

Table I indicates that the total number of full-time foreign students increased at the undergraduate level from 1 520 in 1977/78 to 1 522 in the current year. (These data are of similar magnitude but opposite trend, to those submitted to DGES in December 1978, the corresponding numbers being 1 523 and 1 521 respectively.) However, there was an increase of 78 foreign undergraduates, from 1 426 in 1977/78 to 1 504 in 1978/79, while the total number of undergraduates in 1978/79 is 741 more than last year. Thus, the increase in the number of foreign undergraduates represents only 10.5% of the overall increase in the undergraduate population. In fact, Table II demonstrates that the University is achieving some measure of success in its efforts to reduce its proportion of foreign undergraduates, and, bearing in mind that part-time foreign undergraduates are probably attending the University on a full-time basis, it might well be argued that the present level of 8.5% foreign undergraduates is acceptable.

Table III shows the degree programmes in which full-time foreign undergraduates are registered. It indicates the programmes in which some effort should be made to reduce their numbers if their overall proportion is to be reduced below the present level. Certainly, decisions already taken concerning the admission of foreign students to the Faculties of Commerce & Administration and Engineering in 1979/80 will reduce their proportions in those Faculties.

March 20, 1979.

F.D. Hamblin

Year	Status	Full-Time					Part-Time				
		Loyola Campus		S.G.W. Campus		University	Loyola Campus		S.G.W. Campus		University
		Student Visa	Other Visas	Student Visa	Other Visas		Student Visa	Other Visas	Student Visa	Other Visas	
1976/77	Undergrad.	746	21	796	81	1 644	55	9	89	44	197
	Independ.	3	1	21	4	29	12	9	90	39	150
	TOTAL	749	22	817	85	1 673	67	18	179	83	347
1977/78	Undergrad.	558	23	778	67	1 426	76	8	120	39	243
	Independ.	14	2	67	11	94	13	9	101	44	167
	TOTAL	572	25	845	78	1 520	89	17	221	83	410
1978/79	Undergrad.	588	24	848	44	1 504	128	11	105	36	280
	Independ.	5	0	13	0	18	3	0	28	13	44
	TOTAL	593	24	861	44	1 522	131	11	133	49	324

TABLE I. FOREIGN STUDENT ENROLMENT AT THE UNDERGRADUATE
LEVEL: 1976/77 - 1978/79

Year	Student Type	Loyola Campus			S.G.W. Campus			University		
		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students	
			Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %		Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %		Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %
1976/77	Full-Time	3 729	767	20.6	5 183	877	16.9	8 912	1 644	18.4
	Part-Time	2 987	64	2.1	6 202	133	2.1	9 189	197	2.1
	Total	6 716	831	12.4	11 385	1 010	8.9	18 101	1 841	10.2
1977/78	Full-Time	3 466	580	16.7	5 256	846	16.1	8 722	1 426	16.3
	Part-Time	3 022	84	2.8	6 428	159	2.5	9 450	243	2.6
	Total	6 488	664	10.2	11 684	1 005	8.6	18 172	1 669	9.2
1978/79	Full-Time	3 709	612	16.5	5 754	892	15.5	9 463	1 504	15.9
	Part-Time	3 246	139	4.3	7 149	41	0.6	10 395	180	1.7
	Total	6 955	751	10.8	12 903	933	7.2	19 858	1 684	8.5

TABLE II. COMPARISON OF FOREIGN UNDERGRADUATE ENROLMENT
WITH TOTAL NUMBER OF UNDERGRADUATES:
1976/77 - 1978/79

Programme	Year	Loyola Campus			S.G.W. Campus			University		
		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students	
			Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %		Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment %		Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %
B.A.	1976/77	1 610	205	12.7	1 802	176	9.8	3 412	381	11.2
	1977/78	1 425	151	10.6	1 756	180	10.3	3 181	331	10.4
	1978/79	1 367	148	10.8	1 757	181	10.3	3 124	329	10.5
B.Ed.	1976/77	-	-	-	57	3	5.3	57	3	5.3
	1977/78	-	-	-	68	2	2.9	68	2	2.9
	1978/79	4	-	0	84	4	4.8	88	4	4.5
B.Sc.	1976/77	705	176	25.0	584	162	27.7	1 289	338	26.2
	1977/78	609	135	22.2	516	141	27.3	1 125	276	24.5
	1978/79	601	127	21.1	467	135	28.9	1 068	262	24.5
B.F.A.	1976/77	84	4	4.8	681	56	8.2	765	60	7.8
	1977/78	93	2	2.2	738	51	6.9	831	53	6.4
	1978/79	215	3	1.4	774	42	5.4	989	45	4.6
Sub-Total (Carried Forward)	1976/77	2 399	385		3 124	397		5 523	782	
	1977/78	2 127	288		3 078	374		5 205	662	
	1978/79	2 187	278		3 082	362		5 269	640	

TABLE III. COMPARISON OF FOREIGN UNDERGRADUATE ENROLMENT
IN FULL-TIME PROGRAMMES WITH TOTAL NUMBER OF
FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES IN PROGRAMME:
1976/77 - 1978/79

Programme	Year	Loyola Campus			S.G.W. Campus			University		
		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students		Total Enrolment	Foreign Students	
			Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %		Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %		Enrolment	Proportion of Total Enrolment, %
B.A., B.Ed., B.Sc., B.F.A. (Brought Forward)	1976/77	2 399	385		3 124	397		5 523	782	
	1977/78	2 127	288		3 078	374		5 205	662	
	1978/79	2 187	278		3 082	362		5 269	640	
B.Comm.	1976/77	1 140	321	28.2	1 279	238	18.6	2 419	559	23.1
	1977/78	1 117	223	20.0	1 247	213	17.1	2 364	436	18.4
	1978/79	1 203	197	16.4	1 537	236	15.4	2 740	433	15.8
B.Admin.	1976/77	90	28	31.1	42	12	28.6	132	40	30.3
	1977/78	130	38	29.2	96	24	25.0	226	62	27.4
	1978/79	148	40	27.0	143	43	30.1	291	83	28.5
B.Eng.	1976/77	100	33	33.0	560	184	32.9	660	217	32.9
	1977/78	90	29	32.2	639	180	28.2	729	209	28.7
	1978/79	146	79	54.1	720	179	24.9	866	258	29.8
B.Comp. Sc.	1976/77	-	-	-	178*	46	25.8	178	46	25.8
	1977/78	2	2	100	196	55	28.1	198	57	28.8
	1978/79	25	18	72.0	272	72	26.5	297	90	30.3
TOTAL	1976/77	3 729	767	20.6	5 183	877	16.9	8 912	1 644	18.4
	1977/78	3 466	580	16.7	5 256	846	16.1	8 722	1 426	16.3
	1978/79	3 709	612	16.5	5 754	892	15.5	9 463	1 504	15.9

TABLE III. COMPARISON OF FOREIGN UNDERGRADUATE ENROLMENT
IN FULL-TIME PROGRAMMES WITH TOTAL NUMBER OF
FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATES IN PROGRAMME:

1976/77 - 1978/79

(concluded)

internal memorandum

TO Prof. G. Martin,
Vice-Rector, Admin. & Finance

FROM Prof. F.D. Hamblin,
Director, Institutional Research



DATE
March 7, 1979.

Re: Foreign Undergraduate Enrolment on a FTE Basis

Following our discussion on Monday, we have attempted to convert part-time foreign undergraduates into full-time equivalent. While the FTE basis is satisfactory, and preferable, in many situations, it appears impracticable due to the various assumptions that must be made in this case, and I would suggest is less meaningful than the straight "head count" analysis in our previous tables.

The results of our consideration of FTE foreign undergraduates are given in the attached table for the years 1976/77, 1977/78, and 1978/79. The current FTE definition, in which one full-time and one FTE undergraduate are synonymous, was not introduced until 1977/78, but it has been used for the three years for the sake of consistency. Furthermore, the earlier study was based on Fall term enrolments, and its data were used in preparing the attached table. However, the tuition fee revenue (the basis for the conversion of part-time enrolment to FTE) reported in the 1977/78 formulaire financier was not separated between the Fall and Winter terms, as it had been in the 1976/77 report. Consequently, the estimates given for the current year were based upon data for the 1976 Fall term rather than last year.


In order to illustrate the dangers of attempting to analyse our foreign student population on a FTE basis, two different assumptions were used in preparing the attached table, as follows.

Assumption A. All part-time undergraduates, regardless of their immigration status, were registered for the same average course load in a given Fall/Winter Session.

Assumption B. Those part-time undergraduates holding a student visa were registered for an average of 18 credits in a given Fall/Winter Session while all others, including those holding other forms of visas, were registered for the average course load which produces the correct total FTE of our part-time student population.

It will be noted that Assumption A results in the part-time foreign student FTE representing the same proportion of the total part-time FTE as in the previous tables, but that is the result of the Assumption applying a common factor to both groups.

FDH/gl
Encl.

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Year	Assumption	Average Course Load of Part-Time Students, credits	FTE				Foreign Student FTE as Proportion of Total FTE, %	
			Part-Time Foreign Students (a)	Total Part-Time Students (b)	Full-& Part-Time Foreign Students (c)	Total Full-& Part-Time Students (d)	Part-Time Only [100(a)/(b)]	Full-& Part-Time [100(c)/(d)]
1976/77(1)	A	10.4	68.5	3 193.3	1 712.5	12 105.3	2.1	14.1
	B	10.3(4)	104.6	3 193.3	1 748.6	12 105.3	3.3	14.4
1977/78(2)	A	11.7	94.8	3 686.7	1 520.8	12 408.7	2.6	12.3
	B	11.6(4)	135.7	3 686.7	1 561.7	12 408.7	3.7	12.6
1978/79(3)	A	10.4	62.6	3 612.4	1 566.6	13 075.4	1.7	12.0
	B	10.3(4)	155.8	3 612.4	1 659.8	13 075.4	4.3	12.7

- * Notes: (1) Based on Fall term enrolment statistics and tuition fee revenue.
(2) Based on Fall term enrolment statistics and Fall/Winter Session tuition fee revenue.
(3) Estimated from 1978/79 Fall term enrolment statistics and average course load of part-time students in the 1976/77 Fall term.
(4) For students other than those holding a student visas, whom it is assumed take an average of 18 credits.

ESTIMATES OF FOREIGN UNDERGRADUATE ENROLMENT USING
THE FTE BASIS